

I claim:

1.

1 A bucket carrier made from rubber sheet material comprising:
2 a central strip with a left end and a right end;
3 a left front band portion with a left front band upper edge integral with
4 the left end of the central strip, a left front band lower edge, a left front band free end,
5 and a left rear band portion integral with the central strip and the left front band
6 portion;
7 a right front band portion with a right front band upper edge integral with
8 the right end of the central strip, a right front band lower edge, a right front band free
9 end, and a right rear band portion integral with the central strip and the right front
10 band portion;
11 a left joint connecting the left front band free end to the left rear band
12 portion to form a left bucket band with a frustoconical left bucket receiving passage;
13 and
14 a right joint connecting the right band free end to the right rear portion
15 to form a right bucket band with a frustoconical right bucket receiving passage.

2.

1 A bucket carrier, as set forth in claim 1, including a left upper tongue
2 integral with a left bucket band upper edge, and a right upper tongue integral with a
3 right bucket band upper edge.

3.

1 A bucket carrier, as set forth in claim 1, including a left lower tongue
2 integral with a left bucket band lower edge, and a right lower tongue integral with a
3 right bucket band lower edge.

4.

1 A bucket carrier, as set forth in claim 1, including a first anti-abrasion
2 flap integral with the left bucket band lower edge, and a second anti-abrasion flap
3 integral with the right bucket band lower edge.

5.

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1 A bucket carrier cut from a flat sheet flexible resilient material
2 comprising:
3 a central strip with a left end and a right end;
4 a left side front band portion with a left arcuate upper edge integral with
5 the left end of the central strip, a left arcuate lower edge, a left side front band front
6 band free end, and a left side rear band portion integral with the central strip and the
7 left side front band portion;
8 a right side front band portion with a right arcuate upper edge integral
9 with the right end of the central strip, a right arcuate lower edge, a right side front
10 band free end, and a right side rear band portion integral with the central strip and
11 the right side front band portion;

12 a left side joint connecting the left side free end to the left side rear
13 band portion to form a frustoconical left bucket band with a left band vertical height
14 that is at least one-third the height of buckets to be carried and forms a left bucket
15 receiving passage with a left passage upper diameter that exceeds a left passage
16 lower diameter; and

17 a right side joint connecting the right side free end to the right side rear
18 band portion to form a frustoconical right bucket band with a right band vertical height
19 that is at least one-third the height of buckets to be carried and forms a right bucket
20 receiving passage with a right passage upper diameter that exceeds a right passage
21 lower diameter.

6.

1 A bucket carrier, as set forth in claim 5, including a left upper tongue
2 integral with the upper edge of the left bucket band and a right upper tongue integral
3 with the upper edge of the right bucket band.

7.

1 A bucket carrier, as set forth in claim 5, including a left lower tongue
2 integral with the left lower edge of the left bucket band, and a right lower tongue
3 integral with the right lower edge of the right bucket band.

8.

1 A bucket carrier, as set forth in claim 5, wherein the left bucket band
2 includes a left side anti-abrasion flap integral with the left arcuate lower edge, and
3 wherein the right bucket band includes right side anti-abrasion flap integral with the
4 right arcuate lower edge.

9.

1 A method of making a bucket carrier comprising:
2 cutting a one piece bucket carrier blank from a sheet of rubber material;
3 wrapping a left front band portion and a left rear band portion of the
4 bucket carrier blank around a conical surface;
5 overlapping a left rear band free end and a left front band free end;
6 applying an adhesive to the left rear band free end and the left front
7 band free end to form a left band with a left bucket passage;
8 wrapping a right front band portion and a right rear band portion of the
9 bucket carrier blank around a conical surface; and
10 applying an adhesive to right rear band free end and a right front band
11 free end to form a right band with a right bucket passage.